

International Friendly Match



SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY v VANCOUVER WHITECAPS

Wednesday, 18th March, 1981

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Vancouver WHITECAPS

With a host of new talent and some old familiar faces, Vancouver Whitecaps head into their British training camp on March 1 knowing that an exciting 'new decade has dawned' for the entire organization, both on and off the field.

Not surprisingly, the man who helped raise the Whitecaps to the glory of their Soccer Bowl Championship in 1979 — Tony Walters — is the man who is again determined to help put the eight-year-old club back on top where he and the fans of Vancouver feel it belongs.

Walters' first big move was to lure a legend to the West Coast. Aided by his new right-hand man, Assistant General Manager Peter Bridgewater, Walters convinced former Irish and English league player and coach John Giles to become the Whitecaps' head coach last November, bringing with him a reputation that's virtually unequalled in British football.

The 40-year old 'Irish Messiah' is the most-capped player in Irish history with 60 full international appearances for his country, and Giles boasts a brilliant playing career in England as a skilled, tenacious midfielder with dominant teams of the day like Manchester United, Leeds United and, finally, West Bromwich Albion — where he served as both player and coach and led that team from the depths of the Second Division to the upper echelons of the First Division in just two seasons.

In 1977, Giles discarded all his English league successes and returned to Ireland, determined to

improve his country's system for developing its young players. He became coach of the lowly Shamrock Rovers and promptly filled the side with young, full-time professionals who responded under his tutelage by winning the Irish League Cup the very next season. He also took a number of young Whitecaps' reserves under his fatherly wing.

Now, as Giles coaches in Vancouver, he still maintains his ties with Shamrock and will actually return to coach the Rovers during the NASL off-season, thereby leaving the door open for young Whitecaps to return to Ireland for training and game experience. And the Whitecaps couldn't be happier — because the same works in reverse.

Giles is bringing a promising pair of Irish lads to the Whitecaps this season — 21-year-old Pierce O'Leary, a 6'2" centreback from the Rovers, and 27-year-old Jimmy Holmes, a versatile defender who comes from Tottenham Hotspur and can play either as a centreback or fullback. But the list only began there.

Giles exerted much influence in what were probably the biggest additions to the Whitecaps roster for 1981 — midfielder Terry Yorath and winger David Thomas. Both figure to be key cogs in the Caps machine, as they're talented and dedicated players who lead by example.

Yorath — around whom Giles hopes to build a hard-working, cohesive unit — is a former teammate of Giles at Leeds United, where he also played alongside Giles' newly-appointed assistant coach, Peter 'Thunderfoot' Lorimer.

The 30-year-old Yorath ranks third in all-time appearances for Wales, with 54, and he is still regarded as one of Britain's best midfielders after years with Leeds, Coventry City and, most recently, Tottenham.

So, while the Caps are counting on Yorath to win balls and direct traffic in the middle, they'll also be relying heavily on Thomas to win races up the wing and drop crosses onto the waiting heads of strikers Lorimer and Ray Hankin.

Giles has always admired the 30-year-old Thomas, who comes from Wolverhampton and is hailed as one of the best crossers in football — period.

However, quite apart from this injection of new talent, the Whitecaps are confident that Giles will give the Caps new spirit — more along the lines of what the Soccer bowl side experienced in its march to the championship.

The Giles 'influence' is expected to further motivate his friend and former teammate — Scottish International goalkeeper David Harvey — and it will surely rub off on 'Big Hank', the Caps mammoth young striker who's said to harbor much respect for his predecessor at Leeds.

For evidence of the Giles touch of magic, you need look no further than the Whitecaps' rookies — many of whom trained under Giles at Shamrock and all of whom are just itching to play their hearts out for him. In fact, watch for names like Ralston Dunlop, David Norman, Brent Barling, Shaun Lowther, Hans Granander and Jim Armstrong — they're young Canadians who've suddenly become forces to be reckoned with.

Finally, as the 'Giles plan' falls into place, you can't forget the formidable nucleus that he has to build from. Such stars as Carl Valentine, Bruce Grobbelaar, Bob Lenarduzzi, Roger Kenyon, Paul Nelson and last year's runner-up Rookie of the Year — Gerry Gray — are all eager to get going outdoors again after an impressive winter in the NASL's new indoor league.

With Walters at the helm and Giles guiding his new and talented crew, it's no wonder Vancouver Whitecaps are saying 'The wave strikes back in '81'.



Action from our recent matches: Kevin Taylor fires in a shot against Derby County, and Andy McCulloch does likewise at Blackburn.



Empire Stadium where Whitecaps attracted an average crowd of 26,833. The capacity is just over 32,000 but plans are in hand for a new stadium which will house 60,000 and is due to be completed in 1983.

VANCOUVER WHITECAPS PRE-SEASON PROFILES

DAVID HARVEY Goalkeeper — The veteran Scottish International and Most Valuable Goalkeeper in the 1974 World Cup had a disappointing NASL season. The Leeds United great finished with 10 games, one shutout and a goal-against average of 1.78. Lost weight in the off-season and began intensive training at Leeds with Peter Lorimer. Also worked winter with Leeds youth side. Giles expecting better things from his former team-mate.

JIM HOLMES Defender — A newcomer, Holmes joins Vancouver from Tottenham Hotspur of the English First Division. A 5'9", 160 pound central defender, Holmes has played in more than 200 League and Cup games for Coventry and Spurs. The youngest player ever to be capped by the Republic of Ireland at age 17, Holmes has made 29 appearances for his country.

TERRY YORATH Midfielder — A stalwart veteran of English First Division soccer with Leeds United, Coventry and Tottenham Hotspur, Yorath was the central figure in the deal that brought he and Holmes to Vancouver. A member of Leeds' English championship club of 1973, Yorath is considered one of the most aggressive players in the game. Captain of the Welsh national side for six years, Yorath's 57 full caps rank third behind Ivor Allchurch's Welsh record 68 caps. Yorath should surpass that in the next two seasons. 30 years-old; 6', 170 lbs.

STEVE KEMBER Midfielder — The 32 year-old English veteran was Labatt's Player of the Year in balloting amongst the media this past season despite missing the final 10 games of the year with torn knee ligaments. Kember's 2 goals and 6 assists were fifth overall on the team. Underwent surgery on the knee in off-season and worked with John Giles at Shamrock Rovers as therapeutic training.

BOBBY LENARDUZZI Defender/Midfielder — The 25 year-old Canadian veteran begins his eighth season with Vancouver — last of the original Caps. The 5'10", 160 pounder ranks first in club in Games Played (173 plus 12 playoff games); first in Career Assists (36) and first in Career Fouls (166). Has been capped 19 times for Canada's national side. Was 1978 North American Player of the Year. Had 6 goals, 9 assists for 21 points in indoor.

ROGER KENYON Defender — The 31 year-old English vet begins his third season in Vancouver following 13 illustrious seasons at Everton in the English First Division. Appeared in 27 games this past season and was heart of the Caps' back line. Had an outstanding indoor season as captain of the young Caps.

BUZZ PARSONS Defender/Forward — A six-year Whitecap veteran, Parsons appeared in 24 games this past season, scoring 1 goal and 7 assists. Parsons took on a new role this past winter as Assistant Coach with the Whitecaps' young indoor side. A veteran of the Canadian national team, Parsons ranks second on the all-time Canadian list with 40 caps.



RAY HANKIN Forward — The big 25 year-old striker embarks on his second NASL campaign after finishing 1980 third on the club's individual list with 8 goals and 1 assist for 17 points. An up-and-coming striker the 6'2", 200 pound Hankin was one of Caps' big "young name" signings from Leeds United a year ago.

DAVID THOMAS Forward — The second off-season signing by new coach John Giles, the 5'8", 148-pound Thomas is a veteran of more than 300 League and Cup games in England with Burnley, Queens Park Rangers, Everton and Wolverhampton. The 30 year-old Thomas is considered one of the ablest crossers of the ball in the game. Has represented England on eight occasions.

SHAUN LOWTHER Defender — Caps' 19 year-old rookie got into two games late last season and is rated highly by scouting staff. Really gained invaluable experience this past winter with University College Dublin — where he was nominated as Ireland's Young Player of the Year. An English native who becomes a Canadian citizen later this year.

PAUL NELSON Defender — A young (22) professional now starting his fourth season with the Whitecaps, Nelson cracked the first team last year, appearing in 22 matches. A left full back, Nelson spent the past two winter seasons with Giles' Shamrock Rovers in the League or Ireland. Nelson also joined Whitecaps indoor side in January.

PETER ROE Defender — A real tiger on the pitch, Roe joined the Caps in mid-July as a free agent after a seven-year career with Toronto Blizzard. Roe went on to play 10 games, scoring 1 goal and 1 assist. A member of Canada's national team, Roe has earned 15 Caps. He was a member of Toronto Metros-Croatia NASL championship team in 1976. One of the keys to Caps indoor side this past season, Roe finished with 11 goals and 17 assists.

JIM ARMSTRONG Defender — One of the most pleasant surprises for Coach Derek Possee's indoor team, Armstrong is a highly-rated 20 year-old defender who really blossomed in the indoor season. A graduate of the very successful Dunbar Strongs juvenile system, Armstrong is one of the keys to Caps' Canadian future.

RON VILLAGE Defender — Signed amateur forms with Whitecaps this past winter following outstanding play at CONCACAF North and Central American youth championships in the U.S. Village was named the tourney's Most Valuable Player. Also was voted Burnaby's Outstanding Athlete of the Year. A 6'2", 160-pound central defender.

DAVID NORMAN Midfielder — A graduate of Centennial High School in suburban Coquitlam, Giles rates Norman very highly. The 5'7", 150-pound 19 year-old spent the winter season with University College Dublin in the League of Ireland.

DAN LENARDUZZI Defender — Now entering his third season the youngest (21) of the Lenarduzzi foursome, Dan dressed for 11 games this past outdoor season although he did not see any action. Was an able member of the Caps' indoor side this past winter.

CARL SHEARER Defender — The 20 year-old sophomore defender got into five games this past season before being sidelined by a nagging groin injury that shelved him the rest of the outdoor and indoor seasons. Played last winter with Shamrock Rovers. A 6'4", 200-pounder who excels in the air.

BRENT BARLING Midfielder/Forward — the 19 year-old Vancouverite got into one game with the first team last year — coming on as sub against Dallas Tornado at Texas Stadium and scored goal on first NASL shot in 2-1 Caps loss. Like Lowther, Norman and Dunlop, spent winter at Dublin with University side.



ALAN TAYLOR Forward — The mighty mite (5'9", 146 lbs.) joined the Caps from Norwich City in mid-July last season, appearing in eight games, picking up a pair of assists. Spent this past winter with Cambridge United in the English Second Division. Was an overnight hero in 1975 when he single-handedly took West Ham to the F.A. Cup title, scoring both goals in the 2-0 final.



Carl Valentine in indoor action against Toronto.

CARL VALENTINE Forward — One of the most popular sporting personalities in Vancouver, the 22 year-old Cap sophomore finished 1980 as the club's second leading scorer with 10 goals and 8 assists for 28 points. Voted Most Popular Player by Whitecaps' Supporter's Club and won similar contest in poll conducted by Vancouver Sun readers. Had a great indoor campaign finishing as the clubs top scorer with 22 goals and 15 assists for 59 points.

PETER LORIMER Midfielder/Forward — The Caps' new outdoor playing/Assistant Coach joined the team as Giles' first signing. The 34 year-old Scottish veteran spent the past two seasons with Toronto Blizzard, earning the club's Player of the Year honours in 1979. A foot injury sidelined Lorimer for almost half the 1980 campaign. A 16-time Scottish international, Lorimer spent 17 glory years with Leeds United — teaming with Giles and Yorath.

PIERCE O'LEARY Defender — A member of the Whitecaps' "Irish Connection", the 21 year-old O'Leary is starting his second tour of duty in the NASL. Appeared in 14 games for Philadelphia Fury in 1978. Has played more than 100 matches for Giles' Shamrock Rovers. Has earned seven Irish international caps. Brother David plays for Arsenal, while dad Christy scouts for the same team.

GERRY GRAY Midfielder — Caps' top draft choice of a season ago really came into his own, breaking first team lineup May 11 and going on to play 23 games, recording seven assists. Also cracked the Canadian national team lineup and has earned 12 caps. Scored tying goal in Canada's 1-1 tie with Mexico. Was runner-up to Cosmos' Jeff Durgan in NASL Rookie-Of-The-Year balloting. Glasgow native who grew up in Toronto. Had 9 goals, 15 assists in indoor.

RALSTON DUNLOP Forward — The 6'3", 185 pound striker is coming off a banner winter with Dublin University where he was among the leading goal-scorers in the League of Ireland. Was instrumental in guiding UCD to their first-ever Leinster Senior Cup championship. Entering his second season as a Whitecap, product of B.C. juvenile system.

SAMMY SAUNDH Forward — A member of Whitecaps' highly successful reserve team two seasons ago, Sam found his way back to the top thanks to his work with the indoor team. Blossomed as a real goal-scoring threat, finishing the season as the club's second top goal-scorer with 19. Also had 9 assists to finish with 47 points — second overall on the club. His size (5'8", 149 pounds) always been against him, but a competitive performer.

HANS GRANANDER Forward — A Swedish native who emigrated to the U.S. at the age of 13 and Canada at age 16, Granander signed his first pro contract this past fall. Worked with Whitecaps reserve team then joined indoor side. A natural goal-scorer who is highly thought of by Whitecaps' scouts, Granander connected for 5 goals and 2 assists in the indoor season.

MARK NICKAES Defender — An English native who played at Chester and Plymouth Argyle, Nickaes emigrated to the United States in 1977 and is eligible for American citizenship next summer, making him a North American player. He spent several seasons in the American Soccer League prior to joining Caps indoor side. A steady defender, Nickaes finished as the club's leading defensive scorer with 5 goals and 8 assists for 19 points.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY



FROM:

- ☐ BOB BOLDER
- ☐ RAY BLACKHALL
- ☐ DAVE GRANT
- ☐ MARK SMITH
- ☐ PETER SHIRTLIFF
- ☐ MEL STERLAND
- ☐ JEFF JOHNSON
- ☐ KEVIN TAYLOR
- ☐ DENIS LEMAN
- ☐ ANDY McCULLOCH
- ☐ TERRY CURRAN
- ☐ CHARLIE WILLIAMSON
- ☐ JOHN PEARSON
- ☐ IAN MELLOR
- ☐ BRIAN HORNSBY

OFFICIALS

The men in charge tonight are all local lads, Referee Mick Lowe is from Beighton, Trevor Curtis from Shirecliffe will carry the Red Flag and John Kirkby of Chapeltown the Orange Flag.

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

As at Monday, 16th March 1981

	P	W	D	L	Pts
West Ham United	33	22	7	4	51
Notts County	33	14	13	6	41
Grimby Town	34	13	13	8	39
Blackburn Rovers	33	13	13	7	39
WEDNESDAY	33	15	8	10	38
Chelsea	34	14	9	11	37
Luton Town	33	14	9	10	37
Derby County	33	12	13	8	37
Swansea City	32	13	10	9	36
Cambridge United	33	15	5	13	35
Queens Park Rangers	33	12	10	11	34
Newcastle United	33	11	11	11	33
Orient	33	11	10	12	32
Watford	33	11	9	13	31
Bolton Wanderers	34	11	6	17	28
Wrexham	32	9	10	13	28
Oldham Athletic	34	8	12	14	28
Cardiff City	33	10	8	15	28
Preston North End	33	8	12	13	28
Shrewsbury Town	34	7	13	14	27
Bristol City	33	5	13	15	23
Bristol Rovers	34	4	12	18	20

HIGHEST GATES

West Ham United v Cambridge United 36,002
West Ham United v Chelsea 35,164
West Ham United v Orient 34,408

LOWEST GATES

Bristol Rovers v Notts County 3,552
Bristol Rovers v Oldham Athletic 3,808
Orient v Cardiff City 825

HIGHEST HOME WINS

Chelsea v Newcastle United 6-0
Bolton Wanderers v Cambridge United 6-1

HIGHEST AWAY WINS

Wrexham v Chelsea 0-4
Bolton Wanderers v Swansea City 1-4

SPORTSMAN'S DINNER

Gentlemen, we announce the launching of a new venture for the club. On Wednesday, 8th April a 'Sportsman's Dinner' will be held at the Hillsborough Suite. A six course meal will be followed by a well known speaker from the sporting world and then entertainment from a cabaret act. Master of Ceremonies for the night will be our own Jack Charlton. All you need is a lounge suit and £10 for a ticket (available soon from the Box Office) ... it's sure to be a great night.

Cover Pictures

Wednesday's Ray Blackhall and Whitecaps' Gerry Gray.

Vancouver WHITECAPS



FROM:

- ☐ DAVID HARVEY
- ☐ JIM HOLMES
- ☐ TERRY YORATH
- ☐ STEVE KEMBER
- ☐ BOBBY LENARDUZZI
- ☐ ROGER KENYON
- ☐ BUZZ PARSONS
- ☐ RAY HANKIN
- ☐ DAVID THOMAS
- ☐ SHAUN LOWTHER
- ☐ PAUL NELSON
- ☐ PETER ROE
- ☐ JIM ARMSTRONG
- ☐ RON VILLAGE
- ☐ DAVID NORMAN
- ☐ DAN LENARDUZZI
- ☐ CARL SHEARER
- ☐ BRENT BARLING
- ☐ ALAN TAYLOR
- ☐ CARL VALENTINE
- ☐ PETER LORIMER
- ☐ PIERCE O'LEARY
- ☐ GERRY GRAY
- ☐ RALSTON DUNLOP
- ☐ SAMMY SAUNDH
- ☐ HANS GRANANDER
- ☐ MARK NICKEAS